

March 28, 2005
Special Meeting- Soil and Water Board

Minutes

Members present

D.C. Swaim- Chairman
Brady Wooten- Vice- Chairman
Leon Casstevens- Commissioner
Kim Clark Phillips- Commissioner
Allen Sneed- Commissioner

Others Present

Cecil E. Wood- County Manager

Chairman Swaim called the meeting to order.

5-D- discussion

Mr. Wood reviewed where the county is and what the county hopes to accomplish.

David Harrison, Soil and Water State Representative, presented a proposed plan for the mitigation actions required by the CORP of Engineers. The permit originally complied with mitigation requirements, however, the original permit expired and new regulations have to be addressed concerning mitigated waterways before a new permit can be issued. The proposed plan addresses all of the CORP's concerns.

Mr. Wood stated the CORP has been working with the county to help develop a course of action that will address identified problems, such as the deterioration of the stream banks because of cattle. The CORP has worked with us to give us credit for a preservation buffer along the creek provided the county establishes a 100 foot timber buffer on each side of the creek.

Mr. Harrison stated the time schedule for submitting the plan is the end of March. There will be a public comment period and after any public comments are addressed, the CORP plans to reissue our permit by the end of June.

Mr. Harrison pointed out that the CORP has agreed not to require the county to proceed with this work until funding for the 5-D Project is received. This plan will not require the county to obtain any additional property for mitigation activities. The CORP of Engineers has agreed not to change the credits granted to us in the mitigation plan if we start corrective actions now and the land heals. The Soil and Water Board recommended putting up fencing to refrain the cattle from walking up and down the creek banks. This will allow the land to start healing. The estimated cost of the project now is estimated at \$50,000 to \$500,000 depending upon the healing process.

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to proceed with presenting the draft to the CORP. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Wooten asked the Board to consider a closed session. The session was for the purposes of discussing legal matters, but without the attorney being present the Board decided not to go into closed session.

The Board had a general discussion concerning the rezoning lawsuit and the architect's bill for the schools.

The Board discussed a potential resignation by Kim Bates in the Planning Department. After discussion the Board agreed to make Mr. Bates an offer to stay.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to offer Mr. Bates \$37,500. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 4-1. Commissioner Wooten opposed.**

Adjourn

***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Melinda Vestal, Clerk to the Board